

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 10-16, 19-20, 22-25, 27-29, 31 and 32 are pending. Claims 2, 4-6, 9, 17, 18, 21, 26, 30 and 33-35 have been cancelled. Reconsideration of the Application and Claims is respectfully requested.

103 Rejection

Claims 1-2, 6-7, 13-15, 19, 25, 27-29 and 30-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gopal et al. (US Patent No. 2001/0032263) in view of Toy (US Patent No. 4,554,418) and further in view of Jawahar et al. (US Patent No. 6,289, 333). Applicants respectfully submit that the Gopal et al. in view of Toy and Jawahar et al. does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present invention as are set forth in Claims 1-2, 6-7, 13-15, 19, 25, 27-29 and 30-35.

The Examiner is respectfully directed to Claim 1, which is drawn to a method of handling an exception in a business-to-business transaction. Claim 1 sets forth in part:

... using a unified communication system to automatically notify the authorized representative of the exception; if said authorized representative fails to send a confirmation acknowledging notification of said exception, repeating said using an intelligent contact manager and said using a unified communication system to locate and to notify another authorized representative from said hierarchical list until receipt of said confirmation from any notified authorized representative ...

Claims 15, 25 and 29 recite limitations that are similar to those contained in Claim 1. Claims 2, 6-7, 13-14 depend from independent Claim 1, Claim 19 depends from independent Claim 15, Claims 27-28 depend from independent Claim 25 and 30-35 depend from independent Claim 29 and those ones of these Claims that have not been cancelled set forth additional limitations of the present claimed invention. However, it should be noted that Claims 2, 6, 30 and 33-35 have been cancelled and thus have been included in the rejection

statement in error.

Gopal et al. does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present invention that are set forth in Claims 1. Gopal et al. does not teach or suggest all of the limitations that are recited in the aforementioned Claims as is required to anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present invention set forth therein. Specifically, Gopal et al. does not teach or suggest a method for handling an exception in a business to business transaction that includes “repeating said using an intelligent contact manager and said using a unified communication system to locate and to notify another authorized representative from said hierarchical list until receipt of said confirmation from any notified authorized representative” as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claims 15, 25 and 29 contain similar limitations).

Gopal et al. only discloses a dissimilar archival database system for handling information and information transfers in a computer network. Gopal et al. discloses that as a part of the disclosed method, messages can be sent over a digital network for the purpose of conducting business. However, it should be noted that Gopal et al. is not concerned with contacting different authorized representatives until there is a receipt of a confirmation from any one of the authorized representatives.

In fact, nowhere in the Gopal et al. reference is it taught or suggested that attempts to contact different authorized representatives until there is a receipt of a confirmation from an authorized representative are executed as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claims 15, 25 and 29 contain similar limitations).

Toy does not teach or suggest a modification of Gopal et al. that would remedy the deficiencies of Gopal et al. that are outlined above. More specifically, Toy does not teach or suggest a method for handling an exception in a business to business transaction that includes “repeating said using an intelligent contact manager and said using a unified communication system to locate and to notify another authorized representative from said hierarchical list

until receipt of said confirmation from any notified authorized representative” as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claims 15, 25 and 29 contain similar limitations). Toy only shows a very different information monitoring and notification method and apparatus. Toy does not teach attempting to contact different authorized representatives for the purpose of receiving a confirmation but only to repeat attempts such as to the same representative after a pre-selected delay.

Jawahar et al. does not teach or suggest a modification of Gopal et al. and Toy that would remedy the deficiencies of Gopal et al. and Toy that are outlined above. More specifically, Jawahar et al. does not teach or suggest a method for handling an exception in a business to business transaction that includes “repeating said using an intelligent contact manager and said using a unified communication system to locate and to notify another authorized representative from said hierarchical list until receipt of said confirmation from any notified authorized representative” as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claims 15, 25 and 29 contain similar limitations). Jawahar et al. only shows a very different method and system for enabling dynamic resource collaboration when a collaboration session host is different from a resource host. Importantly, Jawahar et al. does not teach attempting to contact different authorized representatives for the purpose of receiving a confirmation communication therefrom.

Consequently, the embodiments of the present invention that are set forth in Claims 1, 15 and 25 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Gopal et al. in view of Toy and Jawahar et al. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Gopal et al. in view of Toy and Jawahar et al. does not anticipate or render obvious the embodiments of the present claimed invention as are recited in Claims 2, 6-7, 13-14 which depend from Claim 1, Claim 19 which depends from Claim 15, Claims 27-28 which depends from Claim 25 and Claims 30-35 which depend from Claim 29. Consequently, the rejection of Claims 1-2, 6-7, 13-15, 19, 25, 27-29 and 30-35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is improper and should be withdrawn.

Claims 3 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gopal et al. (US Patent No. 2001/0032263) in view of Toy (US Patent No. 4,554,418) and Jawahar et al. (US Patent No. 6,289, 333) and further in view of Kikinis et al. (US Patent No. 2004/0049562). Kikinis et al. does not teach or suggest a modification of Gopal et al., Toy and Jawahar et al. that would remedy the deficiencies of Gopal et al., Toy and Jawahar et al. that are outlined above. More specifically, Jawahar et al. does not teach or suggest a method for handling an exception in a business to business transaction that includes “repeating said using an intelligent contact manager and said using a unified communication system to locate and to notify another authorized representative from said hierarchical list until receipt of said confirmation from any notified authorized representative” as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claim 15 contains similar limitations and Claims 3 and 16 depend from Claims 1 and 15 respectively). Consequently, the embodiments of the present invention that are set forth in Claims 3 and 16 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Gopal et al. in view of Toy and Jawahar et al. and further in view of Kikinis et al.

Claims 8 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gopal et al. (US Patent No. 2001/0032263) in view of Toy (US Patent No. 4,554,418) and Jawahar et al. (US Patent No. 6,289, 333) and further in view of Zhu et al. (US Patent No. 2002/0194272). Zhu et al. does not teach or suggest a modification of Gopal et al., Toy and Jawahar et al. that would remedy the deficiencies of Gopal et al., Toy and Jawahar et al. that are outlined above. More specifically, Zhu et al. does not teach or suggest a method for handling an exception in a business to business transaction that includes “repeating said using an intelligent contact manager and said using a unified communication system to locate and to notify another authorized representative from said hierarchical list until receipt of said confirmation from any notified authorized representative” as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claim 15 contains similar limitations and Claims 8 and 20 depend from Claims 1 and 15 respectively). Consequently, the embodiments of the present invention that are set forth in Claims are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Gopal et al. in view of Toy and Jawahar et al. and further

in view of Zhu et al.

Claims 10-12, 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gopal et al. (US Patent No. 2001/0032263) in view of Toy (US Patent No. 4,554,418) and Jawahar et al. (US Patent No. 6,289, 333) and further in view of Lettich et al. (US Patent No. 2002/0049622). Lettich et al. does not teach or suggest a modification of Gopal et al., Toy and Jawahar et al. that would remedy the deficiencies of Gopal et al., Toy and Jawahar et al. that are outlined above. More specifically, Lettich et al. does not teach or suggest a method for handling an exception in a business to business transaction that includes “repeating said using an intelligent contact manager and said using a unified communication system to locate and to notify another authorized representative from said hierarchical list until receipt of said confirmation from any notified authorized representative” as is set forth in Claim 1 (Claim 15 contains limitations similar to those found in Claim 1 and Claims 10-12 and 22-24 depend from Claims 1 and 15 respectively). Consequently, the embodiments of the present invention that are set forth in Claims 10-12 and 22-24 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Gopal et al. in view of Toy and Jawahar et al. and further in view of Lettich et al.

#### Conclusion

In light of the above-listed amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the remaining Claims.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants’ undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP

Dated: 6/23, 2006

*Reginald A. Ratliff*  
Reginald A. Ratliff  
Registration No. 48,098  
Two North Market Street  
Third Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113  
(408) 938-9060